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Millview County Water District
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24 April 2006

Mr. Charles A. Rich
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Complaint Unit
PO Box 2000
Sacramento, California 95812-2000

Subject: Reply 363:CAR:262.0(23-03-06)

Dear Mr. Rich,

In response to your recent letter regarding a complaint of Water use under pre 1914 statement # S000272 the following will address each of your questions sequentially.

- A) To the best of our knowledge Mr. Hill and Mr. Gomes firmly believe they are the legal owners of the pre 1914 water right S000272 as described and originally filed with the Mendocino County Recorder by J.A. Waldteufel, March 24,1914.
- B) Water is diverted from the Russian River under S000272 in the amount indicated on the Supplemental Statement of Water Diversion and Use dated June 10, 2005 during the months of May through November. The point of diversion is located North 556,508 feet and East 1,660,210 feet of the California coordinate system Zone 2 being within the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of projected Section 5 T15N, R12W MDB& M.

The water diverted is used upon lands as described in the original statement filed with the county recorder March 24, 1914 by J. A. Waldeufel, for domestic use, supplying 125 single family homes constructed by Mr. Gomes and Creek Bridge Homes. Map attached as Exhibit A.

- C) In the lease agreement attached to your letter, Mr. Hill and Mr. Gomes granted, conveyed and assigned all right, title, and interest to the water right S000272 to the District. Excepting a collective reservation of 125,000 gallon per day for use by Mr. Hill and Mr. Gomes or their assignees. It is our understanding the reservation was divided and one share deeded to each home constructed by Creek Bridge.
- D) The District has no knowledge of Mr. Hill and Mr. Gomes having sold any portion of the claimed right.
- E) Creek Bridge homes diverted water under the claimed right we believe from July of 2001 through September of 2002. The District did not receive a copy of the Statement submitted by Creek Bridge and does not know where the point of diversion was listed. However the current diversion point is approximately 400 feet south of Lake Mendocino Drive.
- F) The 51 homes listed are situated on the parcels identified as APN 169-130-01 through 169-130-51. There are an additional 74 homes that are being served within the same subdivision. The water use reported for 2002-2004 included theses additional parcels.
- G) The District supplies water to the places of use identified in both statements, which is fully encompassed within the Districts boundaries. The amounts of water reported for the months of May through November on the Supplemental Statement of Diversion reflect the Districts pumping from its direct diversion point. The remaining months are reported under License 492 (Application 3601) Permit13936 (Application17587) and the water supply agreement with the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District.

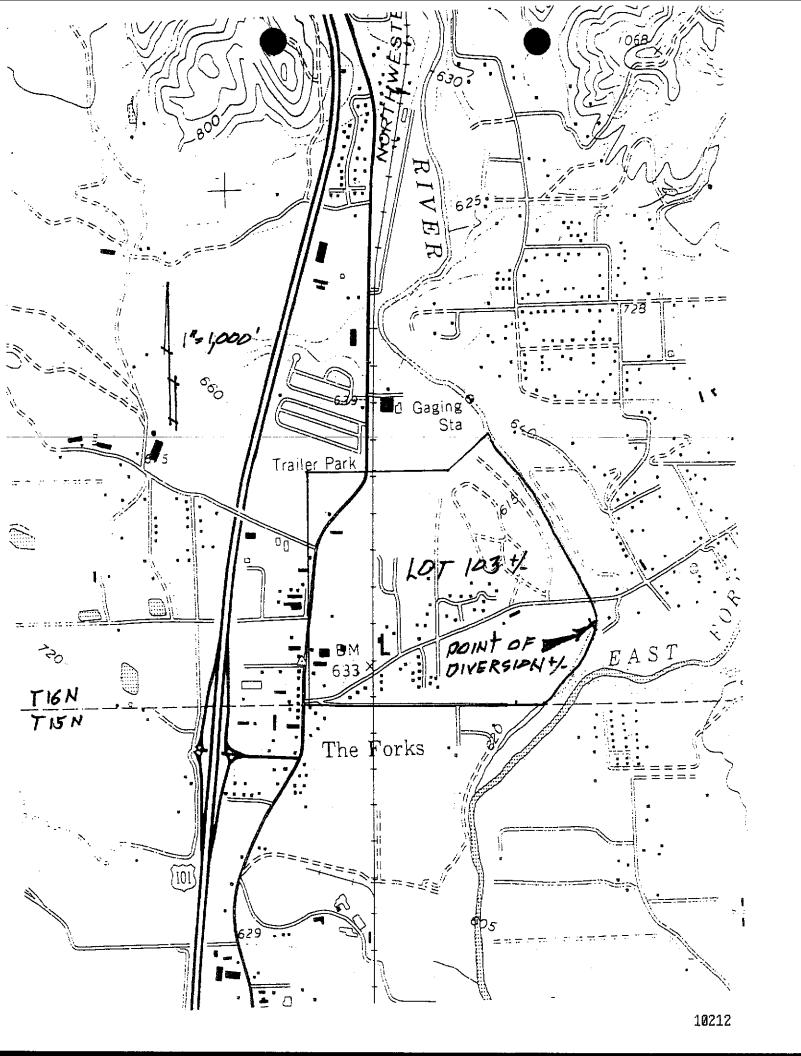
As for Mr. Howard's contention that the Pre-1914 water right no longer exists, based on what he claims are statements made by Mr. Wood, publicly denouncing the validity of the water right, remains open to question.

The District's Legal Counsel met with and interviewed Mr. Woods prior to his passing regarding the historical water use under the Pre-1914 water right. The information gathered from that interview conflicts with the claims made by Mr. Howard in his complaint.

I hope the above information is helpful in making your determination regarding this issue. If I may be of further assistance or provide additional information, you may contact me at the District's Administration Office at (707) 462-7229.

Sincerely,

General Manager



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